



California Leaking Underground Fuel Tank Manual Revision and Public Meetings

Fact Sheet

March 2009

A project by USEPA, working on behalf of the State Water Resources Control Board.

Purpose of LUFT Manual:

The updated California Leaking Underground Fuel Tank (LUFT) Manual is intended to be a "state of the science" document that will provide practical guidance for the remediation of leaking underground fuel tanks.

Goals of Public Meetings:

- To gather input regarding the technical/physical content and the process for updating the California LUFT Manual.
- To gather additional information that could be used for streamlining corrective action processes for LUFT sites within the state of California.

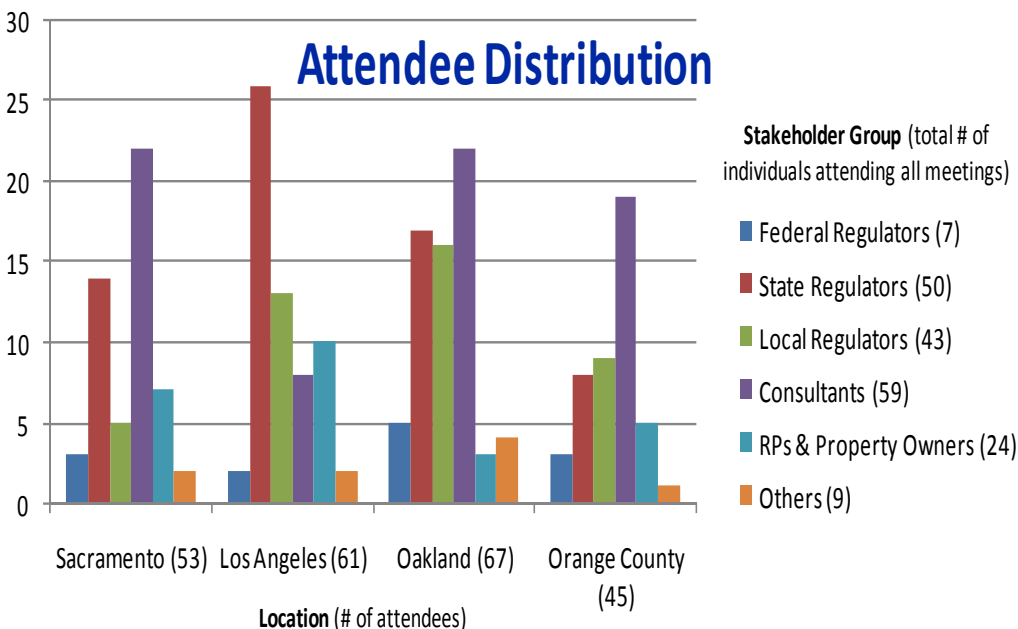
Input from the LUFT Stakeholders

The California LUFT manual was introduced in 1989 to outline best management practices and procedures for corrective action. With guidance from the USEPA Region 9, the California State Water Resources Control Board has hosted four public meetings to collect information and ideas for updating the LUFT manual and to invite discussions on how to improve the overall process of Underground Storage Tank (UST) remediation within the state. These meetings were held in Sacramento, Los Angeles, Oakland, and Orange County during October and November 2008. A **website** was created (www.caluftmanual.org) and interested parties registered for the meetings through the website.



Meeting Planning. The meetings were planned by a team of LUFT stakeholders, including regulators, consultants, and representatives of responsible parties (RPs). The team was guided by process consultants who are experts in designing and facilitating meetings that provide for maximum participation and collaboration. Six planning sessions were held in Sacramento. The resulting public meeting framework allowed all parties to collaborate on the content of the new LUFT manual in a way that was effective, satisfying, and enjoyable. All four public meetings had a similar format and the same basic goals.

Attendee Distribution





Meeting Design

Each meeting had a format designed to encourage participation from all attendees. A number of different forms of discussions were held, in small groups as well as among all participants. Various subjects were covered, including ideas about major trends affecting LUFT cleanup.

Facilitators asked attendees to suggest topics for discussion in Open Space sessions, which were organized and run by the participants. Notes on flip charts formed the basis of brief feedback to the entire group after the sessions were completed.

Ideas for LUFT manual topics or Streamlining LUFT Cleanup generated during the meeting were written on sheets of paper and posted on the walls.

Subsequent open discussion by the participants organized the individual ideas for the Table of Contents (or outline) of the updated manual. This outline included categories such as case closure criteria, green technology, stakeholder responsibilities, UST Cleanup Fund and GeoTracker®. There was considerable difference of opinion expressed by the various stakeholders in the open space sessions and entire group discussions.

Each of the four meetings had its own emphasis and several unique ideas, but there were many similarities in the suggestions from the four locations. Output generated at each of the meetings has been posted at the interactive website ("wiki") created to encourage continued participation in the preparation of the updated LUFT Manual.

Data Generated & Next Steps

The ideas contributed regarding topics for the revised California LUFT manual at the four meetings were consolidated into a draft Table of Contents. The sections included in this initial Table of Contents were Introduction and Process Overview, Roles and Responsibilities for LUFT Case Management, Conceptual Site Models, Health and Safety, Workplans, Site Assessment, Analytical Requirements, Risk Assessment and Management, Corrective Action, Remediation, Reports, Case Closure, UST Cleanup Fund, Green Technology and Processes, GeoTracker® Requirements, Legal Topics, References and Resources, and Appendices, Glossary, and Definitions.

This initial input from the UST community was used to create a "wiki" website where all interested persons can contribute to the content of the updated LUFT manual. Several

training sessions have been held for users of the "wiki" site and additional training is available upon request.

The "wiki" also provides an opportunity for the LUFT community to discuss various issues regarding LUFT cleanup in California. In addition, it includes a Hot Topics section for issues that have emerged since the meetings, and a Wish List for requests for items and information for the manual.

A list of ideas for Streamlining LUFT Cleanup and notes transcribed during each public meeting's Open Space sessions are also posted on the "wiki".

To explore further and contribute to this effort, please read the information on the LUFT Manual Wiki page at www.caluftmanual.org/wiki. Please contact Bob Pallarino (USEPA Region 9) at (415) 947-4128, or Tessa McRae (Sullivan International Group, Inc.) at (619) 260-1432 for further information.